

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Iran

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SOURCE:

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1. The last instruction given to Tudeh Party members prior to the strike which was scheduled for 12 November 1953 was that the Party would not participate in a separate demonstration and that members should only back and strengthen demonstrations initiated by pro-Mossadeq national front groups.^{1,2}
2. Deep dissension was created between the Tudeh Party and pro-Mossadeq groups as a result of the events of 12 November 1953. Mossadeq supporters claim that the Tudeh deceived them and that the supporters are now "openly" engaged in anti-Tudeh activities. The Tudeh is also facing inquiries from some of its members concerning the "causes and results" of the "12 November general strike."³
3. A spirit of disobedience and disorder in the Tudeh Party which has been created by recent events has forced the Tudeh to order that cells must meet at the homes of members in an effort to instill again the importance of discipline.
4. Since a great number of Tudeh Party members were arrested when all Party organs engaged in slogan-writing on the same night, a sub-district committee has been authorized to perform this duty "whenever convenient."
5. Engineer Zirakzadeh⁴ is actually a Tudeh Party member, and from the first days of his cooperation with Mossadeq he acted as a spy, reporting everything to the Party.
6. The Party has replied to one member who asked for guidance concerning the alleged flight of Abu-al-Qasem Lahuti from the Soviet Union, that, even if the story of the escape were correct, it is not important because "international imperialism sends its hirelings into a fortress of peace and democracy under various names and masks."⁵

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- 25X1 7. [] on 18 November 1953, the Party gave no order to demonstrate on 12 November 1953.⁶ It only instructed its members to be present in the bazaar area, to keep moving, and not to talk.⁷
8. The Party issued instructions on 14 November 1953, relieving comrades of the duty of complying with general instructions which may be inapplicable or dangerous to specific members.
9. Lahuti's book is having a "tremendous effect" upon the Iranian people. It is constantly talked about wherever people gather. [] Party associates agree that the appearance of the book is extremely unfortunate for the Party.⁸ 25X1
10. Tudeh Party instructions issued on 19 November 1953 included the following: "The question of non-participation of workers in the 12 November strike must be explained to people and to our comrades. Some Mossadeq supporters, especially Third Force members, have spread the rumor that the Tudeh has deceived them by preventing workers at factories from going on strike. Our comrades are aware that, although we have members and sympathizers among factory workers, they are in the minority. If our comrades were to go on strike, particularly now when the Government has established severe control at factories through the use of pro-Government groups, they would undoubtedly face a fiasco and would, in addition, be recognized and fired. This would be disastrous for the Party, as the Party would lose the political and economic base which is essential to its future. Therefore, the Party has acted wisely in keeping intact this important base."
- 25X1A 1. [] Comment. This order was communicated to all members, but only cell responsables appeared at the fixed hour. It was learned later that the same situation prevailed in other Party branches because ordinary members failed to carry out instructions.
- 25X1A 2. [] Comment. On 12 November, the Iranian security forces thwarted an attempt by the Tudeh Party and other opposition parties to challenge the Government. For further information concerning the strike, [] 25X1A
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- 25X1A 4. [] Comment. Probably Ahmad Zirakzadeh, Iran Party Seventeenth Majlis Deputy. For further information concerning his recent activities, []
- 25X1A 5. [] Comment. A book has recently appeared in Tehran allegedly written by Lahuti, describing his disillusionment and flight from Communism. He is said to be in Pakistan at present. The book is creating considerable furor. On 22 November 1953, Radio Moscow stated that the book was a fraud and introduced someone as Lahuti to recite some Lahuti poems.
- 25X1A 6. [] Comment. This tends to confirm Paragraph 1 above.
- 25X1A 7. [] Comment. The Government probably permitted the gathering in order to show its power to the West, since the Government can and usually does break up side-walk gatherings of as few as five people.
- 25X1A 8. [] Comment. The book is the most telling propaganda blow against Communism in Iran in the twelve years of the Tudeh Party existence.

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